

CANCER IN CALIFORNIA—Prepared by California Tumor Registry Bureau of Chronic Diseases. Published by State of California, Department of Public Health, 1959. Complimentary copy received from Malcolm H. Merrill, M.D., Director, California State Department of Public Health and Lester Breslow, M.D., Chief, Bureau of Chronic Diseases, Division of Preventive Medical Services.

This interesting monograph summarizes many facts concerning today's cancer picture in California.

Since 1900, California's population has increased considerably, the estimate for those 65 years and over is 14 times. About 50 years ago, only 6 per cent of deaths were ascribed to cancer; currently over 16 per cent are so ascribed. Allowing for the age differential, the total death rate from cancer has increased slightly in the last 30 years. This increase has been conspicuous in males, chiefly owing to primary bronchial cancer.

Contrary to much of the hysteria in the daily press and in certain other publications, the recorded leukemia death rate, both nationally and in California, has increased only moderately. Most of this "increase" may be due to improved laboratory facilities.

The decrease in female cancer rates is apparently partly due to improved results of treatment in uterine cancer, notably improved radiotherapeutic results in cancer of the cervix.

As of 1956, the five most frequent sites of male cancers in California were: Lung, stomach, prostate, colon and pancreas. The five most frequent female sites were: Breast, colon, ovary, cervix and corpus uteri.

Interesting data on apparent associations with economic conditions, race, and occupation are appended. The officials of the California Tumor Registry under the able directorship of Dr. Lester Breslow, are to be commended for this useful compilation.

L. H. GARLAND, M.B.

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DISEASES OF THE NOSE, THROAT AND EAR—Second Edition—Edited by Chevalier Jackson, M.D., Sc.D., LL.D., L.H.D., F.A.C.S., Late Honorary Professor of Laryngology and Broncho-Esophagology, Temple University Medical Center; and Chevalier L. Jackson, M.D., M.Sc., F.A.C.S., Professor of Laryngology and Broncho-Esophagology, Temple University Medical Center; with the Collaboration of 61 Outstanding Authorities. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1959. 886 pages, 1193 illustrations on 645 figures including 16 plates in color, \$20.00.

Because of its general excellence, and because the extant American texts on this subject were notably archaic, the original edition of Jackson and Jackson's "Diseases of the Nose, Throat and Ear," published in 1944, was particularly well received. Edited by the late Chevalier Jackson and his distinguished son, and consisting of a large number of individual sections each written by an outstanding authority, the first edition of this text was understandably noteworthy. The publication of this second edition of Jackson and Jackson was awaited with keen anticipation.

The basic organization of the book is unchanged. Of the some 107 sections which compose the new volume, only 22 are new or completely revised. The other sections are either unrevised or contain only very minor revisions. The most conspicuous change in the book is the addition of a 79-page section on plastic surgery of the nose written by J. M. Converse. While the exposition and illustrations in this section are very good, Converse's consideration of deformities of the nasal septum is relatively inadequate and his material is not well oriented in relation to current trends in rhinologic surgery. Among the other new sections are those covering diseases of the oral cavity and salivary glands, applied hematology, sensory-neural deafness, psychogenic deafness,

acoustic trauma, aviation otolaryngology, and surgery of protruding ears. Included is a new (but already obsolete) article on stapes mobilization. The portions of the text devoted to laryngology and bronchoesophagology have been partially revised and remain the most valuable parts of this volume.

It is regrettable that the dynamic changes in otorhinolaryngology which have occurred in the fifteen years which have elapsed since the publication of the original edition of this important text are not well reflected in the second edition. This reviewer is unable to recommend the new edition with any degree of enthusiasm. It is not considered to be a suitable text for medical students. The obsolescence of the greater part of this volume and of most of its bibliographic material make it relatively undesirable as a general reference book in otorhinolaryngology. The purchase of this book might be advisable for small medical libraries which do not own the original edition and are in need of material on peroral endoscopy.

CHARLES P. LEBOW, M.D.

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SURGERY OF THE FOOT—Henri L. DuVries, M.D., Clinical Instructor in Surgery, Chicago Medical School; Attending Surgeon, Columbus Hospital, Mother Cabrini Hospital, and Frank Cuneo Hospital; Chairman, Dept. of Surgery, Illinois College of Chiropractic and Foot Surgery, Chicago. Foreword by Karl A. Meyer, M.D. Introduction by Edward L. Compere, M.D. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1959. 494 pages, \$12.50.

This encyclopedia of foot injuries, anomalies, diseases and treatment is worth reading and owning. It is an excellent reference text. The result of twenty years' practice limited to the foot, the procedures recommended are well described and usually practical.

Orthopedists will find abundant cause for disagreement with the author. His oversimplified interpretation of muscle function, his repeated quotation of the opinions of other authorities when we want to know his own, his failure to describe the foot supporting apparatus he so frequently refers to, and even his interpretation of the effect of his own operations—all these we object to. Since he touches every other foot problem, the book would have been more complete had he given a few of his practical measures for the management of common foot dermatoses.

Since the majority of the book is devoted to nonsurgical foot problems, the title "Surgery of the Foot" is a misnomer. However, its reading is informative as well as productive of controversies.

ROBERT P. WATKINS, M.D.

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SYNOPSIS OF TREATMENT OF ANORECTAL DISEASES—Stuart T. Ross, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.I.C.S., Diplomate of the American Board of Proctology; Secretary of the American Board of Proctology; the C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1959. 240 pages, \$6.50.

This handbook of Anorectal Diseases covers the field in about as concentrated or "boiled down" manner as is possible. Discussions, statistics, major surgical techniques and bibliography are deleted and this definitely enhances the value of the book. It is concise, yet well illustrated with 79 clear illustrations.

The author is to be complimented on his ability to put so much "meat" into this small book of 240 pages. The synopsis is to be recommended not only to the general practitioner, for whom it was no doubt primarily written, but also for the general surgeon who all too often finds himself desirous of a bit of quick information. This book does just that.

CONRAD J. BAUMGARTNER, M.D.